

**REMARKS**

Claims 2-19 and 21 are currently pending in this application. Applicants have cancelled claims 1 and 22-23 without prejudice in response to a restriction requirement. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in light of the above claim amendments and the following remarks.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 12, and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,925,073 to Chastain et al. and claims 4, 11, 14 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by or in the alternative under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Chastain et al. The Examiner further rejected claims 3, 7, 8, 10, 13 and 14-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chastain. The Examiner allowed claim 21.

Applicants have cancelled independent claim 1 and amended claims 2, 5, 11-15, 18 and 19 to depend from allowed claim 21. Applicants therefore submit that claims 2-19 that depend directly or indirectly from claim 21 are allowable as is claim 21 and for additional limitations recited therein.

Applicants do not acquiesce in the rejection of independent claim 1 nor do Applicants admit that Chastain et al. is prior art to the subject matter recited in claim 1. Rather, Applicants have cancelled claim 1 without prejudice to expedite issuance of the current application and reserve the right to demonstrate that Chastain et al. is not prior art to the subject matter recited in claim 1 and to prosecute claim 1 in a continuing application.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims 2-19 and 21 are allowable over the cited references, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

8.307

Date



Peter A. Nichols, Reg. No. 47,822  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

**CUSTOMER NUMBER: 36802**